

### Amendments to the Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A circuit board comprising a mechanism for provably disabling the circuit board, the mechanism comprising:
  - signal means for conducting a signal between the mechanism and the circuit board;
  - separation means for facilitating detachment of the mechanism from the circuit board; and
  - identification means for identifying the mechanism;

wherein the circuit board becomes at least partly non-functional if the mechanism is detached from the circuit board.
2. (Original) The circuit board of claim 1, wherein said signal means comprises a wire trace.
3. (Original) The circuit board of claim 1, wherein said separation means comprises one or more gaps between the mechanism and the circuit board.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) The circuit board of claim 1 [[4]], wherein said identification means comprises an identification circuit.
6. (Currently Amended) The circuit board of claim 1 [[4]], wherein said identification means comprises a visible identification code.
7. (Currently Amended) The circuit board of claim 1 [[4]], wherein said identification means is protected from being easily manipulated.
8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

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21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)
26. (Cancelled)
27. (Cancelled)
28. (Cancelled)
29. (Cancelled)
30. (Cancelled)
31. (Cancelled)
32. (Cancelled)
33. (Cancelled)
34. (New) A circuit board assembly configured for provably disabling  
2 the circuit board, the assembly comprising:  
a circuit board comprising a tab having:  
4 a proximate end connected to the circuit board;  
a distal end opposite the proximate end; and  
6 two opposing sides separated from the assembly by gaps;  
an identification module situated on the tab; and  
8 a signal conductor extending from the circuit board to the tab and configured to  
convey a signal when the assembly is powered;  
10 wherein removal of the tab at or near the proximate end so as to separate said  
identification module from the assembly causes the signal trace to be broken.

35. (New) The circuit board assembly of claim 34, wherein the circuit  
2 board assembly cannot be powered if the signal conductor is broken.

36. (New) The circuit board assembly of claim 34, wherein one or  
2 more operating functions of the circuit board become inoperable when the signal  
conductor is broken.

37. (New) The circuit board assembly of claim 34, wherein the  
2 identification module comprises a hologram.

38. (New) The circuit board assembly of claim 34, wherein the  
2 identification module comprises a barcode.

39. (New) The circuit board assembly of claim 34, wherein the  
2 identification module comprises a sequence of characters.

40. (New) The circuit board assembly of claim 34, wherein the  
2 identification module comprises a chip.

41. (New) The circuit board assembly of claim 34, further comprising  
2 an integrated circuit connected to the signal conductor.

42. (New) The circuit board assembly of claim 34, wherein the signal  
2 conductor does not extend to the distal end of the tab.